

Top Secret

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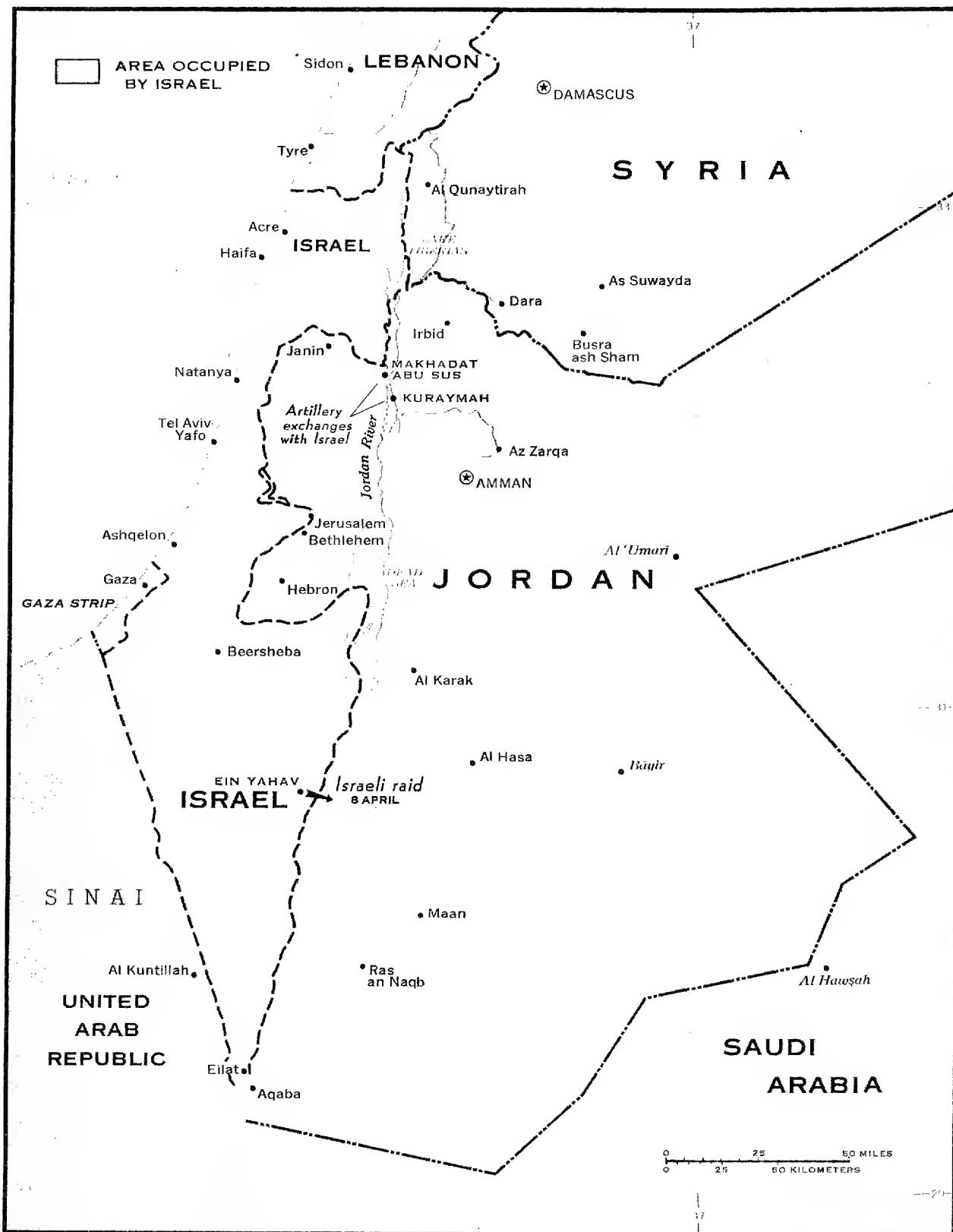
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Israel-Jordan: Israeli forces yesterday morning crossed into Jordan below the Dead Sea, allegedly in "hot pursuit" of Arab terrorists.

The Israelis employed troop-carrying helicopters in the operation, which lasted less than two hours. The Israelis claim to have killed some saboteurs and to have destroyed a house at a commando base six miles inside of Jordan. The Israelis listed no casualties of their own. Artillery duels broke out along the Jordan River north of the Dead Sea shortly before the raid.

As a result of the attack, King Husayn may renew his call for an Arab summit conference. There is, however, little reason to believe that King Faysal of Saudi Arabia, the chief opponent of such a conference, will be more willing than he was after the Israeli raid of 21 March. [] (Map)

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Canada: New Liberal leader Pierre Trudeau, who will soon become prime minister, is not likely to make any quick changes in Canadian policies.

Trudeau regards few of Canada's foreign and domestic policies as sacrosanct, but he will probably be deliberate and pragmatic in making changes. He has promised a thorough review of Canada's defense ties, in part because he frankly admits a lack of familiarity with them.

Some cuts in Canadian force contributions to NATO and UN peacekeeping operations could result from such a review, but a change in basic policy is less likely. Trudeau has said that Canada should concentrate on continental air defense.

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The surprisingly strong showing of ex-trade minister Robert Winters, the most conservative of Trudeau's rivals in the leadership contest, will force Trudeau to take into account the views of the Liberal Party's right wing. Party unity is vital to preserve the minority government and to prepare for a general election, which may come as early as this fall.

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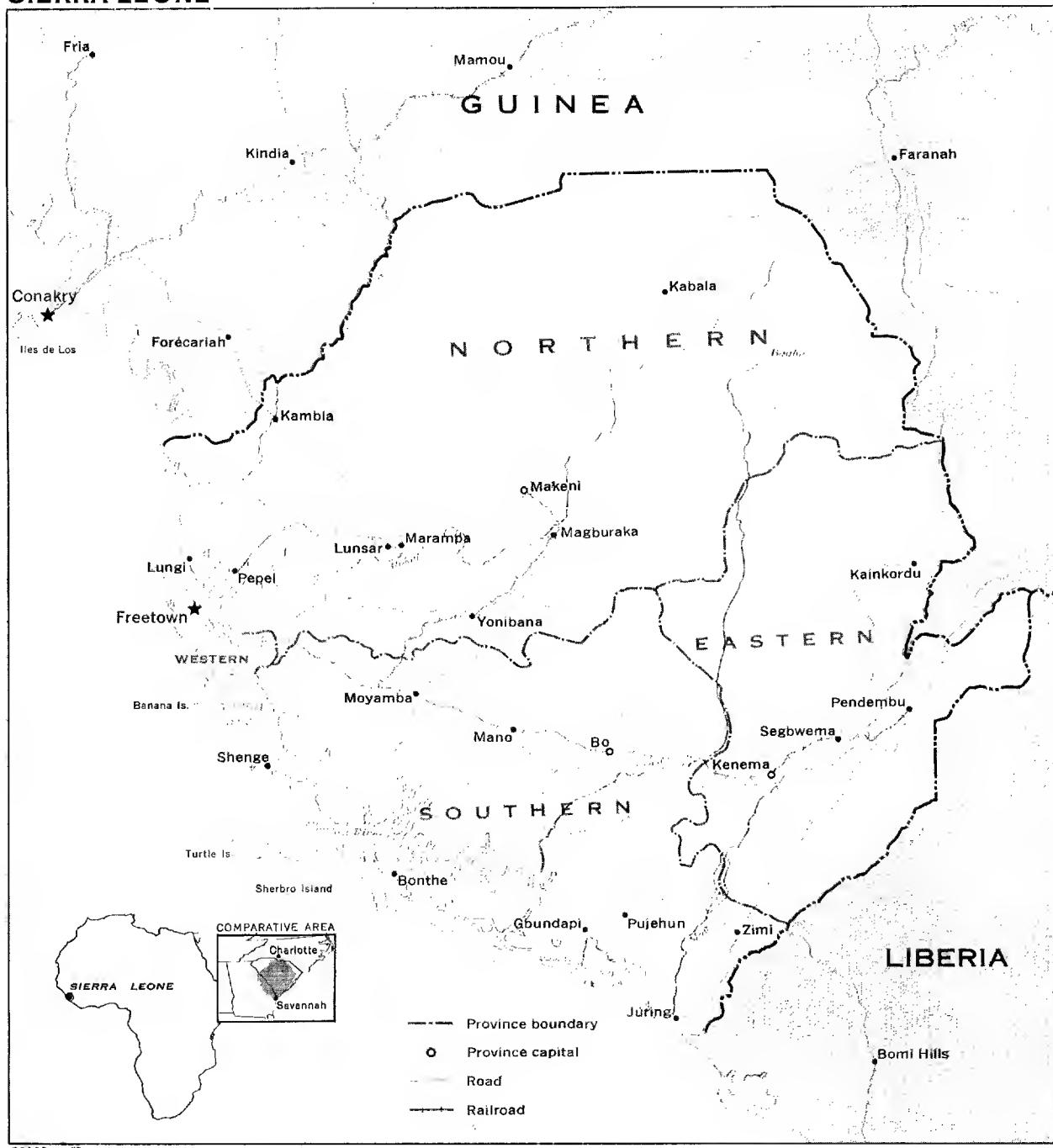
Brazil: Political tension continues although student disturbances have died down.

Leading Catholic churchmen have severely criticized not only the government's handling of the student disorders but also its entire performance since the 1964 revolution. Their condemnation underscores the depth of church dissatisfaction with the current situation and appears certain to increase tension between the government and church. It will probably encourage some of the more radical priests to step up their support for extremist student groups.

The first move against opposition leader Carlos Lacerda came on 5 April in an edict banning activity by his "Broad Front" political movement. The edict is a clear warning to Lacerda that, if he continues his vituperative criticism of the administration, he will risk incurring sterner measures.

Lacerda may well choose to challenge the legality of the edict in the courts, or he may simply defy the government. The edict's wording is vague, and it is possible that he could continue activity either in his own name or under the aegis of the legal opposition party. In any case, the government will probably delay further action until Lacerda's position becomes clear.

SIERRA LEONE



Sierra Leone: Some disaffected political elements are talking of fomenting violence against the ruling junta, and tensions are rising.

Frustrated adherents of the proscribed All People's Congress, deprived of an election victory when the junta seized power a year ago, believe that the junta has reneged on its promise of an early return to civilian government. They are particularly incensed by the junta's failure to accept a recommendation for the establishment by June of a national coalition government. The recommendation was made by a committee established by the junta to advise on how the country could return to civilian rule.

Some Congress members have joined party leader Siaka Stevens in exile in Guinea with the intention of operating against the junta. There are unconfirmed reports that Guinean President Toure has agreed to provide facilities and some arms for guerrilla warfare training, although such support would run counter to Toure's efforts to improve relations with neighboring states. Junta leader Juxon-Smith, who made a hurried trip to Conakry on 3 April, apparently failed to extract from Toure a promise that he would not support the exiles.

The Congress, which can count on support from at least some of Sierra Leone's labor unions and youth groups, probably is capable of launching a campaign of noncooperation and civil disobedience. Strong counter-measures by the junta would probably only make it even more unpopular.

(Map)

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NOTE

Poland: The resignation yesterday of ailing chief of state Edward Ochab means that significant changes probably will be made in the top government leadership at a parliamentary session scheduled for today and tomorrow. Ochab may be replaced in this largely ceremonial job by Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz, leaving the way open for politburo member and provincial party chief Edward Gierek to assume the premiership. These government shifts, which could also involve numerous ministerial positions, will provide indications on the relative strength of the factions involved in the current struggle within the Polish party.

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